

information in respect of the defaulters whose outstandings (both under funded and non-funded facilities) to banks and financial institutions aggregated funded Rs. 1 crore and above and whose accounts have been classified as 'doubtful' and 'loss' for their confidential use for taking credit decisions. Under the secrecy laws the names of banks and borrowers cannot be disclosed. RBI also publishes yearly a list of borrowers with aggregate outstanding of Rs. 1 crore and above as on 31 March against whom suits have been filed. The Indian Express seems to have reported from this list of borrowal accounts against which suits have been filed for recovery of dues. The percentage of non-performing advances to total advances of the public sector banks decreased from 24.78% as on 31-3-1994 to 19.45% as on 31.3.1995. The percentage as further came down to 16.01% as on 31.3.1996.

Industrially Backward Areas

3527. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA :
SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have prepared any list in regard to the industrially backward districts in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise and Union territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Code of conduct for Elections

3528. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :
SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to accord legal sanction to the model codes of conduct for Elections;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) to (c) The proposal to give statutory backing to the provisions contained in Part II of the Model

Code of Conduct for the Guidance of Political Parties and Candidates is under consideration of the Government but no decision has yet been taken in the matter.

Mutilated Currency Notes in Packets of SBI

3529. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the old, torn or worn out currency notes which should ordinarily be destroyed by the R.B.I. are often found in packets issued by the State Bank of India and also by other nationalised banks these days;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the instructions Government propose to issue in this regard to the Nationalised Banks to ensure that such notes are not included in the packets prepared by these banks.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that old, torn or worn out currency notes which should ordinarily be destroyed should not, normally, be found in packets issued by banks as the banks are required to sort out notes into reissuables and non-issuables and issue only reissuable note packets against payments. RBI have further reported that there could be instances where some non-issuable notes were issued in reissuable note packets which can be attributed to subjectivity involved in sorting of notes in the banks concerned.

(c) The extant instructions issued by the RBI to the banks require that the latter should sort out notes into issuable and non-issuable and to send non-issuable notes to RBI for eventual destruction.

Textile Market Promotion Offices

3530. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government have decided to set up market promotion offices in the foreign countries;

(b) if so, the names of the countries where these offices are likely to be set up; and

(c) the time by which these offices are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) to (c) In order to step up our textile exports to certain countries/regions, government have supported a combined effort of the textile Export Promotion Councils to open One Man Export Promotion Offices in Sao